

## KOREAN AMERICANS - CULTURAL COMMONALITIES

### 1. Generations, Immigration and Length of U.S. Residency

Koreans are one of the largest, fastest growing Asian groups in the United States. Their immigration to the U.S. started between 1902 and 1905 when a total of 7,200 Koreans arrived in Hawaii as sugar plantation workers. In less than one century the number has grown to an estimated one million, with over 1.3 million Korean Americans projected by the year 2000.<sup>1</sup> In the first sixty years, the growth was minimal, only reaching 69,130 as counted in the 1970 Census. A dramatic increase occurred with the enactment of the Immigration Act of 1965. According to the U.S. Census, there were 354,593 Koreans in 1980, and 798,849 in 1990. Given this growth rate, Korean population might well have surpassed one million by now and the projected 1.3 million by 2000 seems to be a rather conservative figure.

As with most other Asian groups, California is increasingly preferred by new Korean immigrants as a permanent place to settle down. Whereas the 1980 Census showed 29.3% of the Korean population residing in California, there were 32.5% listed as living in the state in the 1990 Census, indicating 3.2% more Koreans chose the state as their residence during that decade.<sup>2</sup> They prefer California to other states, due to its mild climate as well as its geographical proximity to their homeland. Another reason may be that new immigrants tend to cluster around their already existing ethnic communities. Future immigrants from Korea are thus much more likely to choose California as their home state.

Since the majority of Korean immigrants have arrived since 1965, and many are still arriving, they do not have a long history in the U.S. This is in contrast to Japanese Americans, for example, who have lived in the United States for generations and have fewer new immigrants. In other words, the Korean community is mainly composed of first-generation immigrants and their children, the so-called 1.5 (one-point-five) generation immigrants, who were born in Korea and educated in the U.S. Koreans came to America for a variety of reasons - family reunions, fleeing from military regimes or the threat of war, better employment opportunities, and a good education for their children. In short, they came here to realize their own "American dream." They are mostly from the upper middle class and well-educated, but, despite that education, adapting to America is no easy process. First generation Koreans are still under the strong influence of their native culture that clashes with American manners and values in many ways. Their English is functionally limited. One-point-five generation Koreans are relatively better adjusted than the first generation, since they were exposed to the English language and American culture earlier in their lives. Their cross-cultural conflicts are less serious than those of their parents. The third group consists of second and third generation Koreans but they are relatively small in numbers and, having already been acculturated to the mainstream culture, live in suburban areas, with little or no involvement with the Korean community.

Most of the new immigrants live first in predominantly Korean areas, usually in apartments. Then, they move out to their own homes in suburban areas, as their lives become more stable. Owning a home is often considered the first step to the realization of the American dream, and it is not a rare thing for a Korean family, after two or three years, to own their own home.

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<sup>1</sup> Lee, Lauren. *Korean Americans*. Marshall Cavendish Corporation, New York, 1995. p. 21

<sup>2</sup> Min, Pyong Gap. *Caught in the Middle: Korean Communities in New York and Los Angeles*. University of California Press, Los Angeles, 1996. Table 2, p. 33.

## **2. Family and Children**

In Korean culture, families were once very large, several generations living under one roof. But now a nuclear family has become more common and customarily has two or three children. Like other Asian groups, Koreans are strongly family oriented. Family members are closely knit, sharing gains and losses, successes and failures, joys and sorrows. Such close relations of family members are not restricted to the immediate family, but extend beyond, and include becoming part of social organizations and serving the community to which they belong. Thus, the family is the fundamental element of society, whose welfare and prosperity are nothing but the sum totals of the welfare and prosperity of each family.

Family life is based on a system that emphasizes obedience to superiors, that is, children submissive to parents, the wife to the husband, the young to the old, and so on. This is the essence of Korean family culture, derived from Confucian teaching, that is deeply embedded in the Korean way of thinking and living. Thus, the father is the head of the family and automatically assumes the authority and responsibility to manage it. His ideas and decisions almost always prevail in important family matters. It is the father who goes out to make a living. The mother's traditional role is mostly confined to household tasks. However, in America, her role has become increasingly important and diversified. As they pursue interests and activities beyond domestic boundaries, they come into contact with feminism and gender issues.

Koreans love children. Children's happiness and well being is always the top priority in parents' hopes and endeavors. Parents will do all within their means and capabilities to secure a good education for their children. In ancient Korea, education was available exclusively to children of the privileged class as it was the only means of becoming a government officer and succeeding in the world. Korean parents still embrace the concept of education as the road to a prestigious position and a high standard of living. While the high standard of educational achievements expected of children explains the outstanding success of many Korean students in American schools, it also poses frequent problems for under-performers, causing conflicts between parents and children.

## **3. Language**

Korean immigrants have two major concerns - the acquisition of English skills and children's retention of the Korean language. Community adult schools in and near the Korean community are filled with Korean students of English as a second language. Children learn Korean at home or at Korean language schools.

Korean Americans, the majority being first generation immigrants, use the Korean language predominantly regardless of the length of residence in this country. Due to constant exposure to spoken Korean at home, most of the children have developed Korean listening skills although their ability to speak is limited. One-point-five generation children usually have a fairly good command of the language in speaking and reading as well. Understandably, children with the ability of communicating in Korean are regarded with favor among Koreans.

The desire of Korean immigrants to maintain their native language and culture has given rise to numerous Korean language schools, usually through churches, and occasionally in rented local public schools. In California alone, there are hundreds of such schools - about 300 in Southern California and 80 in the Bay Area (according to the Korean Consulate General in Los Angeles). Recently, two organizations of

these schools - the Korean School Association and the National Association for Korean School - have jointly mounted a successful fundraising campaign to institute the Korean language as a SAT II subject. Operated on Saturdays or Sundays, Korean schools focus on teaching Korean, but their curriculum also includes other subjects related to Korean culture such as Korean history, Korean folk dancing, Tae Kwon Do, and Korean brush calligraphy. Children are sent to the schools against their wills in most cases. Many children are also sent to Korea during summer vacation in order to improve their Korean language skills and Korean cultural awareness. At first, the need for the Korean language is not appreciated very much by children, however, they eventually come to understand the value of Korean language skills. They understand that it is useful in communicating with parents and helps them to enhance their self-identity and that it provides them with better employment opportunities with Korean businesses here and in Korea. They are expecting the value of Korean language skills to become increasingly greater in the era of the Pacific Rim and the global economy.

The Korean language is written in *Hangul*, the Korean alphabet, that consists of 24 symbols. Acclaimed as one of the most scientific writing systems in the world, *Hangul* is relatively easy to learn because each symbol represents one unique sound. While romanization systems do exist in Korea, they are not taught at schools. The average Korean is not aware of the rules of romanization and tends to invent an idiosyncratic way when romanizing his or her name. The two most widely known romanization schemes are the McCune-Reischauer system (the M-R system) and the Ministry of Education system (the ME system). While the latter has long been the most familiar to Koreans, the South Korean government abandoned it in favor of the more international M-R system before the 1988 Seoul Olympic games. Since romanization does not directly affect those who live in Korea, the average Korean is not aware (nor does s/he care) which system is in use. However, romanization is of more significance to Korean-Americans, because they often deal with the Korean language in the English speaking culture. The M-R system is the standard for American libraries including the Library of Congress. Unfortunately, many Koreans react negatively to the M-R system because of its unfamiliar diacritical marks and phonetic transcription of sounds (as opposed to the more traditional one-on-one transliteration of scripts as used by the ME system).

#### 4. Religion/Spirituality

Religion traditionally has been important to Koreans. Their religiosity has become all the more evident in their American life due to greater spiritual needs in strange and difficult circumstances. The two major religions Korean Americans are affiliated with are Christianity and Buddhism, of which the former is by far the larger. Roughly three quarters of the Korean population in the U.S. regularly attend church services, either Protestant or Catholic,<sup>3</sup> so there are numerous Korean churches wherever there is a Korean population. Aside from being the homes of spiritual devotion, churches often function as community centers providing a variety of non-religious services like Korean language classes and counseling sessions on various subjects related to American life. On the other hand, Buddhist temples, much smaller in numbers than Christian churches, are found in metropolitan areas like Los Angeles and San Francisco, offering services to devotees constituting about 2% of the Korean population.<sup>4</sup> Confucianism is followed not so much as a religion but as a philosophy that regulates Koreans' way of thinking and living, although no teaching of the doctrine is publicly carried out in the community.

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<sup>3</sup> Yu, Eui-Young. *Korean Community Profile: Life and Consumer Patterns*. Korea Times, Los Angeles, 1990. p. 28

<sup>4</sup> *ibid.*

## 5. Manners, Customs, Etiquette, Gestures and Taboos

Confucianism can claim to having been the most influential system in molding Korean thought and culture. It has taught Koreans to behave with decorum and show respect to propriety. In fact, its ideals, although much less powerful than in the past, still permeate every aspect of Korean life, largely governing Korean manners and behavior.

- Modesty in language and behavior is a highly regarded virtue. Bragging or an assertive manner can alienate others. Koreans' tendency to avoid eye contact comes from traditional Korean modesty. It is rude or even offensive to look an elder directly in the eye.
- There is a distinct order of importance, or a hierarchy, that is to be observed in human relations. Older people must be treated with respect, and young people are expected to behave appropriately in deference to them. For example, it is rude, even an offense, for a young man to sit in a relaxed manner with his legs folded in front of an older person or superior.
- Koreans tend to be formal with a rather stoic expression and demeanor at initial contacts, but their hidden congeniality unfolds as contacts are repeated and trust generated.
- The traditional Korean manner of greeting is bowing, but handshaking is becoming increasingly common. Physical touch between different sexes, including handshakes, is still avoided by more conservative Koreans. A person who is younger or of lower status always bows first, then the greeted one offers a handshake or returns the bow.
- Calling an older person by their first name is construed as offensive. The proper way is to use the family name preceded by Mr., Mrs., Dr., etc.
- Honor and reputation is valued highly, hence the importance of "face-saving" or "face-losing". Children attending a good college enhances the honor of the family; their lack of good education and poor manners disgraces the family.
- Koreans smile only when the occasion warrants. To smile without an appropriate reason is deemed as demonstrating a weak character. Dignified looks are more the norm.

Beckoning is never done with a finger but by waving a hand with the palm down.

Hands generally are not used much in conversation. Hats are removed inside buildings as well as in the presence of an elder or superior. Shoes are taken off inside a house. Feet are not placed on a desk or chair. Things are passed to an elder or superior with both hands.

Four (4) is an unlucky number for Koreans, because "four" is a homonym to "death" in Korean. That is why Koreans avoid sleeping in a hotel room numbered 4 or 44, or keep away from working in a room assigned one of above numbers in an office building. In Korea, a room is seldom assigned such a number in a hotel or office building.

A Korean meal always includes *kimchi* - a spicy, fermented cabbage - as a side dish. *Hanbok*, a Korean traditional dress of two colorful pieces, is worn on special occasions - marriage, the first birthday of a child, the 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, the New Year's Day, and other traditional holidays. On such an occasion and at other festive gatherings of relatives and friends, people often play *yunnori*, a popular folk game. Four round-backed and flat-faced sticks are used. They are thrown in the air and the score is determined depending on how they land, back up or face up.

A Korean name is mostly made up of three characters (three syllables) - one character for the family name and two characters for the personal name. The family name always comes first. Korean Ameri-

cans, however, have all adopted the American system and put the personal name first and the family name last. One may occasionally encounter a Romanized Korean name of the traditional structure with the family name first. A good example is the name of the President of Korea - Kim Dae Jung, which is used for all the books he has authored and also printed by American newspapers. Those accustomed to Korean American names might take *Jung*, not *Kim*, for his family name. Calling him President Jung, instead of President Kim, would be a cultural fiasco.

## 6. Cultural Ideals

Korean people are friendly, tolerant, respectful of elders, and very hospitable. They are proud of their cultural heritage. Many traditional Korean values, which are deeply rooted in Confucian doctrine, have been brought to America by Korean immigrants.

- Korean cultural ideals emphasize filial piety, loyalty to the state (a king), marital fidelity, respect for elders, and faithful friendship - five cardinal virtues of Confucianism.
- Education is the most important aspect of Korean culture. Because of the importance placed on education, literacy in Korea is almost universal (95% by one report).
- Learning and self-culture are a life-long pursuit. Along with the ability to maintain one's family properly, self-cultivation through learning is considered a prerequisite to success in other endeavors. "A person must first cultivate himself and maintain his family properly before he can govern the nation," as the Korean adage goes.
- Harmony in human relations is emphasized over disputatious confrontation.
- Moderation or the golden mean is considered ideal in business and social transactions.
- Generosity, gentleness and hard work are valued as highly desired elements of a person's character.
- Hospitality and graciousness characterize Koreans in time of peace. In time of difficulty, they display courage and great endurance. They are proud that their country has triumphed over numerous national crises in the past.
- Koreans are highly optimistic. They believe, as a Korean proverb says, that "there is always a way out, no matter how adverse the situation is."

In America, however, some of these traditional values and ideals are undergoing a gradual change in the course of blending in with the mainstream culture.

- Individual rights and happiness are pursued with greater emphasis.
- Assertiveness is encouraged over a self-effacing manner. Modesty can be taken for weakness or even incompetence in American culture.
- Materialistic success is given more importance than, say, self-culture.
- Assertiveness or competitiveness is no longer spurned.
- Ancestral worship is being replaced by Christian or other religious services at home.

With these changes filtering into their lives and thought, Korean Americans hope for a future of wealth and security, but worry that the traditional cultural values they brought from the homeland will be lost.

## 7. Social Interaction and Relationships

Koreans respect harmony in social interaction. They are rarely confrontational. They avoid open criticism and public disagreement. They discuss bad news or adverse opinions about a person known to them only with family members or trusted friends or express them in an indirect way.

For Koreans, being connected is essential both in private life and in doing business. They perceive that success depends greatly on social contacts. The larger and more diversified the contacts are, the more prosperous and prestigious a person becomes. This explains why the Korean community has so many community and social organizations, which include Korean associations, business associations, professional societies, alumni associations, sports clubs, and family clan societies, to name just a few. Consequently, it is not unusual for a Korean American to belong to several different groups at the same time, in addition to his/her religious affiliation.

If participation in such group activities tends to become official, less formal and closer relationships are often fostered through friendly gatherings at home. Koreans love inviting and being invited for evenings together at home, and this tradition has become all the more pronounced in the lives of Korean Americans in need of mutual support through the difficult course of American adaptation. Visiting friends' homes is done reciprocally. The visitor customarily brings a gift like flowers, cakes, or a box of fruit as a gesture of gratitude for the invitation. The host feels honored to have all the invitees join the evening and enjoy a dinner prepared with care and generosity. Weddings are also reciprocally invited and attended. The wedding hosted by a prosperous and prestigious family is always attended by relatives and friends filling the hall or church to the capacity, with each of them bringing a nice present or a generous gift of money. Living in a densely populated country, Koreans have learned how to entertain each other and become good neighbors in a tightly knit community.

## **8. Role of the Library**

The public library can play an essential role in helping Korean Americans to make a smooth transition from the culture of their homeland to that of the American mainstream. It is the most easily accessible American public agency the new immigrants can utilize and it can offer valuable services and materials to enlighten Korean immigrants on various aspects of their adopted society. Well educated in their homeland and eager to take advantage of educational opportunities in the U.S., these people have great potential to become regular library customers. Therefore, the public library should rigorously reach out to the Korean community to publicize itself and to increase Koreans' awareness of its existence in their neighborhood and what it can do for them.

- Assume the role of an educational center for new Korean immigrants to become informed and learn about the various systems of this society that are different from those of their homeland.
- Attract Korean patrons to the library with Korean language materials. The existence of materials in Korean impresses Koreans visiting the library for the first time and is certain to make them repeat customers. Stocking a few popular Korean magazines is a good start. Koreans attracted to the library on account of Korean language materials will eventually move toward English language materials as they become familiar with the other collections of the library.
- Identify what Koreans need most and provide it consistently. Korean language materials will be most useful to first generation Koreans with limited English skills. English learning materials, cassettes and videos as well as books, are in great demand, as are materials in easy English on citizenship, how to apply for jobs, American customs and manners, American school systems, and other survival skills. The one-point-five generation needs not only materials for learning English and how to adapt to the mainstream culture, but also those for retaining the Korean language and culture. Provide English materials on Korea and Korean culture for the second and third generation Koreans to help them learn and keep their cultural roots and self-identity.
- Provide Korean immigrants with library programs on various survival skills. Multicultural programs will be useful for them to learn about other cultures and how to relate to them. Koreans

are from a traditionally homogeneous society with little exposure to other ethnic people. To become sensitive to other cultures in this diversified society is an indispensable survival skill required of Korean immigrants.

- Offer family focused programs designed to attract both parents and children. “Fun for kids” hours usually appeal to parents as well. Parents’ workshops on parent-children relations such as how to interact and improve communication with children are useful, especially with children’s participation.
- Hire Korean bilingual/bicultural staff to serve Korean speaking patrons. Train other staff to become responsive to their library needs and enable them to meet those needs with sensitivity to Korean cultural ideals and manners. Don’t hesitate to involve Korean American patrons in making library services more relevant to their needs.
- For a successful outreach to the Korean community, enlist the help of religious and social organizations as well as other community organizations to which Korean Americans are affiliated.

To sum up, the public library having a Korean population in its service area should become proactive in creating a welcoming library environment for Korean speaking patrons and equipping itself to best satisfy what they need in terms of staffing, materials, and programs. The library truly can be an integral part of Korean Americans’ transcultural experiences on their road to realizing their American dreams.

## CALENDAR OF KOREAN HOLIDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

### **January 1:** *New Year's Day*

The first three days of the New Year are generally celebrated.

### **1st day of 1st month of the Lunar calendar:** *National Folklore Day*

Also known as the Lunar or Chinese New Year's Day, this day is celebrated with family rituals honoring ancestors. Greetings are exchanged among families and relatives and traditional games are played. The exact date changes each year, but it almost always occurs from late January to late February. A family feast is held, with specially prepared food such as *ttokguk* (rice cake soup) and *sujongkwa* (persimmon punch). Many people dress up in *hanbok*, the colorful Korean traditional dress.

### **March 1:** *Independence Movement Day*

Commemorates the anniversary of the March 1, 1919 independence movement against Japanese colonial rule.

### **April 5:** *Arbor Day*

On this day, government officials, teachers, school children and tens of thousands of Koreans throughout the country plant trees pursuant to the government's reforestation program.

### **8th Day of the 4th month of the lunar calendar :** *Buddha's Birthday*

Solemn rituals are held at Buddhist temples adorned with colorful lanterns. The celebration is climaxed with a lantern parade in the evening.

### **June 6:** *Memorial Day*

The nation pays tribute to the war dead, with memorial services held at the Seoul National Cemetery.

### **July 17:** *Constitution Day*

Commemorates the adoption of the Republic of Korea's constitution in 1948.

### **August 15:** *Liberation Day*

On this day of 1945, Korea was liberated from Japanese colonial rule of 35 years. The day also marks the establishment of the government of the Republic of Korea in 1948.

### **15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar:** *Chusok or Harvest Festival Day*

One of the most important traditional holidays in Korea. *Chusok* is Korea's equivalent of Thanksgiving Day. On this day, a feast is prepared and families hold memorial services at their ancestors' graves. Viewing the full moon is a feature of the evening.

### *Korean Festival Week:*

In a week toward the end of September, usually around *Chusok*, Korean-Americans celebrate their cultural heritage with a variety of festive programs which culminate with a parade on Olympic Blvd. in Koreatown, Los Angeles.

### **October 3:** *Korea's Foundation Day*

Commemorates the founding of Korea as a nation by *Tan-gun* in 2333 B. C.



**October 9:** *Han-gul-nal* or *Korean Alphabet Day*

Celebrates the anniversary of *Han-gul* promulgated by King Sejong of the Choson Dynasty in 1446. Koreans take great pride in their indigenous alphabet, which is easy to learn and known as one of the simplest and most scientific writing systems in the world.

**December 25:** *Christmas Day*

Celebrated as a major holiday by Christians and other citizens as in the West.

## **KOREAN LANGUAGE VENDORS**

### **Los Angeles**

1. Chong No Books Center  
2785 W. Olympic Bl.  
L.A., CA 90006  
Contact person: Hyun Soo Kim  
Tel: 213-739-8107  
Fax: 213-739-8714
2. Dong-A Book Plaza  
3460 W. 8th St.  
L.A., CA 90005  
Contact person: Won Young Yoon  
Tel: 213-382-7100  
Fax: 213-382-2819
3. Jeong Eum Korea Book Center  
928 S. Western Ave., #151  
L.A., CA 90006  
Contact person: Clara Choi  
Tel: 213)387-0234  
Fax: 213)745-7782
4. Koreaone Book Store  
170 S. Western Ave  
L.A., CA 90004  
Contact person: Young Soo Bahk  
Tel: 213)388-0914  
Fax: 213)388-9829
5. Music Plaza (A/V materials)  
928 S. Western Ave. Suite #301  
L.A. CA 90006  
Contact person: Hyon Chol Chon  
Tel: 213)385-4725  
Fax: 213)385-4587
6. Spring Water Book Import,  
3003 W. Olympic Bl.  
L.A. CA 90006  
Contact person: Donald Kim  
Tel: 213)380-8787  
Fax: 213)380-0264

### **Orange County**

1. Dong-A Books  
9828 Garden Grove Bl. #104  
Garden Grove, CA 92843  
Contact person: Mr. Song  
Tel: 714)636-7100  
Fax: 714)636-7132

### **San Francisco**

1. Tyrannus Book Store  
5233 Geary Bl.  
San Francisco, CA 94118  
Contact person: Jai Soo Park  
Tel: 415)831-1155  
Fax: 415)752-2424
2. Korean Book Center  
5633 Geary Bl.  
San Francisco, CA 94121  
Contact person: Sang Hee Chung  
Tel: 415)221-4250  
Fax: 415)221-2155

### **Santa Clara**

1. Lee's Gifts  
5633 Geary Bl.  
Santa Clara, CA 95050  
Contact person: Young Kim  
Tel: 408)296-2240  
Tel: 408)246-2300
2. San Jose Korean Christian Book Center  
2454 El Camino Real  
Santa Clara, CA 95051  
Contact person: Young Chun  
Tel: 408)246-2300

## SELECTED KOREAN PERIODICALS

### Newspapers

#### *The Korea Central Daily*

One of the two major Korean language newspapers in California. The newspaper includes the Korean edition plus the U.S. edition. It is published in Los Angeles and San Francisco, covering their respective regions.

#### *The Korea Times*

Probably has a larger circulation than the above. It also includes the Korean and the U.S. editions together. Published in Los Angeles, it is the largest circulating Korean language newspaper in the U.S.

### Magazine (All listed below are monthly magazines.)

#### For Adults

#### *Sin Dong-A*

A general current affairs magazine, covering political, social and economic issues in Korea. Widely read by male adults.

#### *Wolgan Choson*

Another general current affairs magazine. Covers similar topics as the above magazine.

#### *Chubu Saeghwal*

One of the most popular women's magazines focusing on housewives. An American edition is published one month later than the original Korean issue.

#### *Woman Sense*

Similar to the above magazine in coverage and readership.

#### *Elle and Ceci*

Similar in coverage and popularity, these two magazines mainly appeal to young women and housewives.

#### *Hyundai Munhak*

A literary magazine carrying Korean short stories, poems, and essays written by new writers as well as established ones. Widely read by literary minded people and potential writers.

#### *Paduk*

*Paduk* is the Korean version of the Japanese game *go*. This magazine appeals widely to Korean players of the game.

#### *Kaeksok*

A magazine of the performing arts that has a considerable following.

### For Young Adults

*Junior* and *Music Life*

Two popular young adult magazines.

*Haksaeng Kwahak*

A science magazine for young adult readers.

### For Children

*Pang Pang*

A comics magazine intended for K-2 children.

*Wink* and *Mink*

Two comics magazines popular among 3-5 graders.

## POPULAR KOREAN AUTHORS

(ROMANIZED ACCORDING TO THE McCUNE-REISCHAUER SYSTEM)

### Contemporary Fiction

Cho, Chŏng-nae	조정래	Kim, Wŏn-il	김원일
Cho, Hae-il	조해일	Kong, Chi-yŏng	공지영
Cho, Sŏn-jak	조선작	Mun, Sun-t'ae	문순태
Ch'oe, In-ho	최인호	Pak, Kyŏng-ni	박경리
Ch'oe, In-hun	최인훈	Pak, Pŏm-sin	박범신
Chŏng, Ŭl-byŏng	정을병	Pak, Wan-sŏ	박완자
Han, Su-san	한수산	Sŏ, Yŏng-ŭn	서영은
Han, Sŭng-wŏn	한승원	Yang, Kwi-ja	양귀자
Hwang, Sŏg-yŏng	황석영	Yi, Ch'ŏng-jun	이청준
Kang, Sin-jae	강신재	Yi, Mun-yŏl	이문열
Kim, Chu-yŏng	김주영	Yi, Oe-su	이외수
Kim, Hong-sin	김홍신	Yi, Pyŏng-ju	이병규
Kim, Su-hyŏn	김수현	Yun, Hŭng-gil	윤홍길
Kim, Sŭng-ok	김승옥		

### Modern Classics

Ch'ae, Man-sik	채만식	Kim Yu-jŏng	김유정
Hwang, Sun-wŏn	황순원	Na, To-hyang	나도현
Hyŏn, Chin-gŏn	현진건	Yi, Hyo-sŏk	이효석
Kim, Tong-in	김동인	Yi, Kwang-su	이광수
Kim, Tong-ni	김동리	Yi, sang	이성

### Historical Fiction

Hwang, In-jae	황인재	Pang, Ki-hwan	방기환
Kim, Sŏng-han	김성한	Song, Chi-yŏng	송지영
Pak, Chong-hwa	박종화	Yu, Chu-hyŏn	유주현

### Mystery

Chŏng, Kŏn-sŏp	정건섭	Kim, Sang-hŏn	김상헌
Han, Tae-hŭi	한대희	Kim, Sŏng-jong	김성
Hyŏn, Chae-hun	한재훈	No, Wŏn	노

### Non-Fiction

An, Pyŏng-uk	안병욱	Pŏpchŏng	법
Kim, Tong-gil	김동길	Yi, Kyu-t'ae	이규
Kim, Yong-ok	김용옥	Yi, Si-hyŏng	이시

# KOREAN PHRASES FOR LIBRARY USE

1. How are you?	안녕하세요?	Annyŏng haseyo.
2. Welcome!	어서 오세요.	Ŏsŏ oseyo
3. Can I help you?	도와 드릴까요?	Towa tŭrilkkayo
4. Wait a moment, please.	잠깐 기다리세요.	Chamkkan kidariseyo
5. Do you have a library card?	도서관 카드 있으세요?	Tosŏgwan k'adu issŭseyo?
6. What's your name?	이름이 무엇입니까?	Irŭmi muŏsimnigga?
7. What's your last name?	성이 무엇입니까?	Sŏng'i muŏsimmigga?
8. Please return the books by this date.	이 날까지 돌려 주세요.	I nalkkaji tollyŏ chuseyo.
9. The books are overdue.	대출기간이 지났습니다.	Taech'ul kigani chinassŭmnida.
10. I'm sorry. There is a fine.	미안하지만 과태료가 있습니다.	Mianhajiman kwat'aeryoga issŭmnida.
11. Ask the librarian.	사서에게 물어 보세요.	Sasŏ ege murŏ boseyo.
12. Everything is fine.	다 되었습니다.	Ta toeŏssŭmida.
13. Thank you.	감사합니다.	Kamsa hamnida
14. You're welcome.	천만에요.	Ch'ŏnmanyeyo.
15. Excuse me.	실례합니다.	Sillye hamnida.
16. Good-bye.	안녕히 가세요.	Annyŏngghi kaseyo.
17. Please come back.	또 오세요.	Tto oseyo.

# WORD LIST

<u>English</u>	<u>Korean</u>	<u>Romanized</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Korean</u>	<u>Romanized</u>
adult	성인	sŏng'in	library	도서관	tosŏkwan
application	신청서	sinch'ŏngsŏ	library card	도서관증	tosŏkwan- chŭng
book	책	ch'aek	magazine	잡지	chapchi
cassette	카셋	k'aset	newspaper	신문	sinmun
children	아동	adong	patron	손님	sonnim
circulation desk	도서 대출부	tosŏ taech'ulpu	public library	공립 도서관	kongnip tosŏkwan
computer	컴퓨터	k'amp'u- ta	reference desk	자료 문의부	charyo munŭibu
due date	반환일	panhwanil	restroom	화장실	hwajangsil
emergency exit	비상구	pisang'gu	staff	직원	chikwŏn
exit	출구	ch'ulgu	video	비디오	pidio
fine	벌금	pŏlkŭm	young adult	청소년	ch'ŏngso- nyŏn
information desk	안내	annae			
librarian	사서	sasŏ			

## Dewey Classifications in Korean

000-099	Generalities	총류
030	General encyclopedic works	일반 백화사전
070	Journalism, publishing, newspapers	언론, 출판, 신문
100-199	Philosophy & related disciplines	철학 및 관련학
110	Metaphysics	형이상학
130	Parapsychology, occultism	심령학, 비학
150	Psychology	심리학
160	Logics	논리학
200-299	Religion	종교
220	Bible	성경
230	Christian theology	기독교 신학
290	Other religions	기타 종교
300-399	Social Sciences	사회과학
320	Political sciences	정치학
330	Economics	경제학
340	Law	법률
370	Education	교육
400-499	Language	언어
410	Linguistics	언어학
420	English	영어
430	German	독일어
440	French	불란서어
450	Italian	이탈리어
490	Other languages	기타 언어
500-599	Pure Sciences	순수 과학
510	Mathematics	수학
520	Astronomy	천문학
530	Physics	물리학
540	Chemistry	화학
550	Sciences of earth	지구학
580	Botanical sciences	식물학
590	Zoological sciences	동물학
600-699	Technology (Applied sciences)	공학 (응용과학)
610	Medical sciences	의학
640	Domestic arts & sciences	가정학
690	Buildings	건물



700-799	The arts	예술
710	Landscape arts	조경
720	Architecture	건축
740	Drawing	그림
750	Paintings	유화
770	Photography	사진
780	Music	음악
790	Recreational & performing arts	운동 및 공연예술
800-899	Literature	문학
810	American literature	미국문학
820	English literature	영문학
830	German literature	독일문학
840	French literature	불문학
850	Italian literature	이탈리문학
890	Literatures of other languages	기타언어 문학
900-999	General geography & history	지리와 역사
910	General geography	일반 지리
920	Biography	전기
940	History of Europe	유럽 역사
950	History of Asia	아세아 역사
970	History of North America	미주 역사
980	History of South America	
990	History of other areas (Pacific Ocean islands)	기타지역 역사 (태평양 도서)

## **RESOURCES FOR KOREAN LANGUAGE SERVICES**

### **Web Sites**

Korean Cultural Center in Los Angeles - [www.kccla.org](http://www.kccla.org).

Korea Link - [www.korealink.com](http://www.korealink.com).

Korean National Tourism Organization - [www.knto.or.kr](http://www.knto.or.kr)

Ministry of Culture and Tourism - <http://www.mct.go.kr>.

National Museum of Contemporary Art - <http://www.moca.go.kr/english>

National Museum of Korea - [www.museum.go.kr/english/index.htm/](http://www.museum.go.kr/english/index.htm/)

### **Libraries with Expertise Serving Korean Language Speakers**

#### **LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY**

International Languages Department, Central Library

630 W. Fifth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071

Tel: 213-228-7125 Fax: 213-228-7139

Email: [language@lapl.org](mailto:language@lapl.org)

Mid Valley Regional Branch

16244 Nordhoff Street, North Hills, CA 91343

Tel: 818-895-3654 Fax: 818-895-3657

Email: [midval@lapl.org](mailto:midval@lapl.org)

Pio Pico Koreatown Branch

695 S. Serrano Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90005

Tel: 213-368-7282 Fax: 213-368-7280

Email: [piokor@lapl.org](mailto:piokor@lapl.org)

#### **LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Asian Pacific Resource Center

1550 W. Beverly Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640

Tel: 213-722-6551 Fax: 213-722-3018

Rowland Heights Public Library

1850 Nogales Street, Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Tel: 626-912-5348 Fax: 626-810-3538

#### **CERRITOS PUBLIC LIBRARY**

18025 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90701

Tel: 310-924-5776 Fax: 310-865-5087

#### **ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Garden Grove Regional Branch

11200 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 90640

Tel: 714-530-0711 Fax: 714-530-9405

Email: [ggreg@deltanet.com](mailto:ggreg@deltanet.com)

**KOREAN CULTURAL CENTER, LOS ANGELES**

5505 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036

Tel: 213-936-7141 Fax: 213-925-5712

Email: kccla@pdc.net

**KOREAN HERITAGE LIBRARY, USC**

University Park, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0182

Tel: 213-740-2324 Fax: 213-749-1221

**People Resources**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Chung, Su      | Principal Administrative Librarian<br>Garden Grove Regional Branch Library<br>11200 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840<br>Tel: 714-530-0711 Fax: 714-530-9405                    |
| Hahn, Keumsook | Adult Librarian<br>Pio Pico Koreatown Branch, LAPL<br>Tel: 213-368-7282 Fax: 213-368-7280<br>Email: piokor@lapl.org   |
| Jung, Soon     | Head of Cataloging<br>Newport Beach Central Library<br>1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92660<br>Tel: 949-717-3824 Fax: 949-640-5681<br>Email: nbplref@class.org              |
| Kim, Joanne Y. | Associate Professor/Librarian III<br>Pasadena City College Library<br>1570 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91106<br>Tel: 626-585-7837 Fax: 626-585-7913<br>Email: jykim@paccd.cc.us |
| Kim, Joy       | Curator<br>Korean Heritage Library, USC<br>University Park, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0182<br>Tel: 213-740-2329 Fax: 213-749-1221<br>Email: joykim@calvin.usc.edu                       |
| Kim, Won Tack  | Cataloger<br>Los Angeles Public Library<br>630 W. Fifth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071<br>Tel: 213-228-7192 Fax: 213-228-7049<br>Email: wkim@lapl.org                                |

Kim, Yanghee	Librarian West Valley College, Outreach Instruction 14000 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070-5698 Tel: 408-741-2484 Fax: 408-741-2134 Email: yanghee_kim@westvally.edu
Lee, Youngsil	Reference Librarian Business/Economics Dept., Central Library, LAPL 630 W. Fifth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071 Tel: 213-228-7115 Fax: 213-228-7119 Email: business@lapl.org
Lim, Miki	Young Adult Librarian Pio Pico Koreatown Branch, LAPL 695 S. Serrano Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90005 Tel: 213-368-7282 Fax: 213-368-7280 Email: yapiokor@lapl.org
Paick, Heawon	Children's Librarian Washington Irving Branch, LAPL 1803 S. Arlington Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90019 Tel: 213-734-6303 Fax: 213-612-0435 Email: wirvngch@lapl.org
Roh, Jae Min	Senior Librarian Pio Pico Koreatown Branch, LAPL 695 S. Serrano Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90005 Tel: 213-368-7285 Fax: 213-368-7280 Email: jminroh@lapl.org

## OTHER RESOURCES (KOREAN LANGUAGE MEDIA IN CALIFORNIA)

### 1: TELEVISION STATIONS

KTE (Korean Television Enterprise)

Channel 18

625 S. Kingsley Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90005

Los Angeles, Ca 90005

Tel: (213) 382-6700

Fax: (213) 382-5793

E-mail: [kte@wdc.net](mailto:kte@wdc.net)

KTAN-TV

Channel 16

4525 Wilshire Bl., Los Angeles, CA 90010

Los Angeles, Ca 900 10

Tel: (213) 963-0101

Fax: (213) 964-0102

KATV

SBN Korean TV Station

Channel 32

1255 Post St. Suite #400

San Francisco, CA 94109

Tel: (415) 441-3232

Fax: (415) 931-3232

KTN

Channel 30

2345 Harris Way

San Jose, CA 95131

Tel: (408) 955-7410

Fax: (408) 955-7411

### 2. RADIO STATIONS

RADIO KOREA, U.S.A.

AM1580

626 S. Kingsley Dr.

Los Angeles, CA 90005

Tel: (213) 487-1300

Fax: (213) 487-7455

E-mail: [www.radiokorea.com](http://www.radiokorea.com).

FM Seoul Broadcasting, Inc.

FM 93.5

4525 Wilshire Bl.

Los Angeles, CA 90010

Tel: (213) 935-0606

Fax: (213) 935-7779

HANMI RADIO STATION

AM 1400

475 El Camino Real, Suite #202

Millbrae, CA 94303

Tel: (650) 259-1400

Fax: (650) 259-1401

E-mail:

[karadio@IX.netcom.com](mailto:karadio@IX.netcom.com).

RADIO SEOUL

FM SCA 106.9

AM 1450

1255 Post St., Suite #315

San Francisco, CA 94109

Tel: (415) 567-3685

Fax: (415) 567-0909

E-mail: [mkim 974424@aol](mailto:mkim 974424@aol)

### 3. NEWSPAPERS

#### THE KOREA TIMES, Los Angeles Edition (Daily)

4525 Wilshire Bl.  
Los Angeles, CA 900 10

Tel: (213) 692-2000  
Fax: (213) 692-2111

#### THE KOREA TIMES, San Francisco Edition (Daily)

679 Bryant St.  
San Francisco, CA 94107

Tel: (415) 777-1133  
Fax: (415) 777-1336

#### THE KOREA TIMES, San Diego Edition (Daily)

7969 Engineer Rd., Suite # 106  
San Diego, CA 92111

Tel: (619) 292-2000  
Fax: (619) 268-0555

#### THE KOREA CENTRAL DAILY NEWS

690 Wilshire Place  
Los Angeles, CA 90005

Tel: (213) 368-2500  
Fax: (213) 368-8384  
E-mail: [www.joongang.cd.kr](http://www.joongang.cd.kr)

#### THE KOREA CENTRAL DAILY NEWS, San Diego Branch

7888 Dagget St. #104  
San Diego, CA 92111

Tel: (619) 573-1111  
Fax: (619) 573-1735

#### THE KOREA CENTRAL DAILY NEWS, Orange County Branch

9592 Garden Grove Bl.  
Garden Grove, CA 92644

Tel: (714) 638-2341  
Fax: (714) 638-1101

#### THE KOREA CENTRAL DAILY NEWS, San Francisco Branch

1245 Howard St.  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Tel: (415) 522-5100